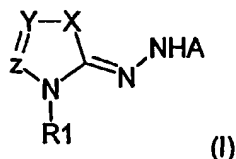


1. (original) Ready-to-use agent for coloring keratin fibers, characterized in that it contains (a) at least one hydrazone derivative of formula (I) or a physiologically compatible salt thereof



wherein

**X** stands for oxygen, sulfur or NR<sub>2</sub>,

**Y** stands for C-R<sub>3</sub> or nitrogen and

**Z** stands for C-R<sub>4</sub> or nitrogen,

provided that the heterocyclic part of the compound of formula (I) contains at the most three heteroatoms;

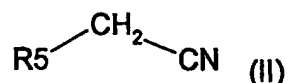
**A** stands for hydrogen, an acetyl group, a trifluoroacetyl group, a formyl group, a (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)-alkylsulfonyl group or an arylsulfonyl group;

**R1** and **R2** can be equal or different and independently of each other denote a saturated or unsaturated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl group, a halogen-substituted (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl group, a hydroxy-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl group, an amino-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl group, a sulfonic acid-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl group, a formyl group, a -C(O)-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl group, a substituted or unsubstituted -C(O)-phenyl group, a -C(O)NH-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl group, a substituted or unsubstituted -C(O)NH-phenyl group, a substituted or unsubstituted phenyl group or a benzyl group;

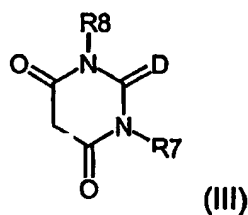
**R3** and **R4** can be identical or different and independently of each other denote hydrogen, a halogen atom, a saturated or unsaturated (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl group, a halogen-substituted (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl group, a hydroxyl group, a hydroxy-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl group, a (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkoxy group, a cyano group, a nitro group, an amino group, a (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkylamino group, a di(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkylamino group, a carboxyl group, a -C(O)O-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl group, a substituted or unsubstituted -C(O)O-phenyl group, a substituted or unsubstituted phenyl group or a naphthyl group;

and when **Y** and **Z** stand for C-R3 and C-R4, **R3** and **R4** together with the remainder of the molecule can form a heterocyclic or carbocyclic, saturated or unsaturated, substituted or unsubstituted ring system;

(b) at least one CH-active compound of formulas (II) to (IX) with

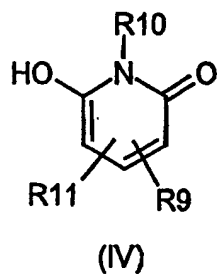


wherein **R5** denotes a cyano group, a (CO)-R6 carbonyl function, with **R6** standing for a (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkoxy group, an amino group, a (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkylamino group, a (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl group or an aryl group;



wherein **R7** and **R8** can be equal or different and denote hydrogen, a (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl group, a monohydroxy-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl group, a polyhydroxy-(C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl group, a mono-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)-alkoxy-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)-alkyl group, a poly-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)-alkoxy-(C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)-alkyl group, an amino-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl group, or a carbocyclic or heterocyclic, substituted or unsubstituted aromatic compound,

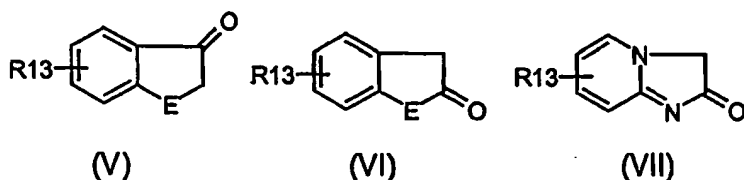
and **D** stands for a sulfur atom or oxygen atom;



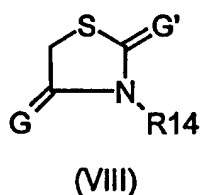
wherein **R9** denotes a hydrogen atom, a nitrile group, a (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl group, a carbocyclic or heterocyclic aromatic compound or a (CO)-R12 carbonyl function,

with **R12** standing for hydrogen, a hydroxyl group, a (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkoxy group, an amino group, a (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkylamino group, a (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl group or an aryl group, and

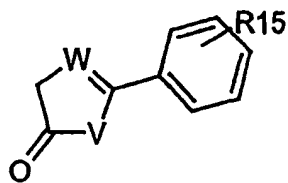
**R10** and **R11** can be equal or different and independently of each other denote hydrogen, a (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl group, a monohydroxy-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl group, a polyhydroxy-(C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl group, a mono-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)-alkoxy-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)-alkyl group, a poly-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)-alkoxy-(C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)-alkyl group, an amino-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl group, or a carbocyclic or heterocyclic aromatic compound;



wherein **E** denotes an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom of an NR' amino group, with R' standing for hydrogen or a substituted or unsubstituted (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl group, and **R13** stands for a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a cyano group, a nitro group, a (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl group, a monohydroxy-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl group, a polyhydroxy-(C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl group, a mono-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)-alkoxy-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)-alkyl group, a poly-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)-alkoxy-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)-alkyl group, an amino-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl group, or a carbocyclic or heterocyclic aromatic compound, a carboxamide or a sulfonamide;



wherein **G** and **G'** can be equal or different and independently of each other denote an oxygen atom, sulfur atom or an NR'' amino group, with R'' standing for hydrogen or a substituted or un-substituted (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl group, and **R14** denotes hydrogen, a substituted or unsubstituted (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl group or a carbocyclic or heterocyclic, substituted or unsubstituted aromatic compound;



(IX)

wherein **V** stands for an oxygen atom or an NR''' amino group, with R''' denoting hydrogen or a substituted or unsubstituted-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl group and

**R15** stands for a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a cyano group, a nitro group, a (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl group, a monohydroxy-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl group, a polyhydroxy-(C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl group, a mono-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)-alkoxy-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)-alkyl group, a poly-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)-alkoxy-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)-alkyl group, an amino-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl group, a carbocyclic or heterocyclic aromatic compound, a carboxamide or a sulfonamide; and

(c) at least one oxidant.

2. (original) Agent as defined in claim 1, characterized in that in formula (I) **X** stands for sulfur, **Y** stands for C-R<sub>3</sub>, **Z** stands for C-R<sub>4</sub> and **A** denotes hydrogen.

3. (currently amended) Agent as defined in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the hydrazone derivative of formula (I) is selected from among

3-methyl-2(3H)thiazolone hydrazone,

3,4-dimethyl-2(3H)thiazolone hydrazone,

4-tert.butyl-3-methyl-2(3H)thiazolone hydrazone,

3-methyl-4-phenyl-2(3H)thiazolone hydrazone,

3-methyl-4-(4-tolyl)-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,

4-(4-methoxy)phenyl-3-methyl-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,

4-(4-ethoxy)phenyl-3-methyl-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,

4-(4-bromophenyl)-3-methyl-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,

4-(3-bromophenyl)-3-methyl-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,

4-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-methyl-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,

4-(3-chlorophenyl)-3-methyl-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,  
3-methyl-4-(4-nitrophenyl)-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,  
3-methyl-4-(3-nitrophenyl)-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,  
4-[(1,1'-biphenyl)-4-yl]-3-methyl-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,  
ethyl 2-hydrazono-2,3-dihydro-3-methyl-4-thiazolecarboxylate,  
3,4,5-trimethyl-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,  
3,4-dimethyl-5-phenyl-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,  
3,5-dimethyl-4-phenyl-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,  
4,5-diphenyl-3-methyl-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,  
5-ethyl-3-methyl-4-phenyl-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,  
4-(4-bromophenyl)-3-methyl-5-phenyl-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,  
3-methyl-5-phenyl-4-(4-tolyl)-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,  
5-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-phenyl-3-methyl-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,  
5-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-methyl-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,  
ethyl 2-hydrazono-2,3-dihydro-3,4-dimethyl-4-thiazolecarboxylate,  
4-amino-2-hydrazono-2,3-dihydro-3-methyl-5-thiazole carbonitrile  
4,5-dimethyl-3-ethyl-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,  
ethyl 2-hydrazono-2,3-dihydro-3-ethyl-4-methylthiazolecarboxylate,  
5-methyl-3-(1-methylethyl)-4-phenyl-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,  
4,5-diphenyl-3-(1-methylethyl)-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone  
4,5-diphenyl-3-propyl-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,  
3-butyl-4,5-diphenyl-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,  
4,5-diphenyl-3-(2-methylpropyl)-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,  
3-(2-propenyl)-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,  
4-methyl-3-(2-propenyl)-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,  
4-tert.butyl-3-(2-propenyl)-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,  
4-phenyl-3-(2-propenyl)-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,  
4,5-diphenyl-3-(2-propenyl)-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,  
3-hydroxyethyl-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,  
3-hydroxyethyl-4-methyl-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,  
3-aminoethyl-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,

3-aminoethyl-4-methyl-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,  
 3-phenyl-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,  
 4-methyl-3-phenyl-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,  
 3,4-diphenyl-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,  
 4-p-biphenyl-3-phenyl-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,  
 4-(4-methoxy)phenyl-3-phenyl-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,  
 4-tert.butyl-3-phenyl-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,  
 3,4-diphenyl-5-methyl-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,  
 3,4,5-triphenyl-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,  
 4,5-dimethyl-3-(phenylmethyl)-2(3H)-thiazolone hydrazone,  
 ethyl 2-hydrazono-2,3-dihydro-3-[(phenylamino)carbonyl]-4-methylthiazolecarboxylate  
 3-methyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-2(3H)-benzothiazolone hydrazone,  
 3-methyl-2(3H)benzothiazolone hydrazone,  
 3,6-dimethyl-2(3H)benzothiazolone hydrazone,  
 6-chloro-3-methyl-2(3H)benzothiazolone hydrazone,  
 7-chloro-3-methyl-2(3H)benzothiazolone hydrazone,  
 6-hydroxy-3-methyl-2(3H)benzothiazolone hydrazone,  
 5-methoxy-3-methyl-2(3H)benzothiazolone hydrazone,  
 7-methoxy-3-methyl-2(3H)benzothiazolone hydrazone,  
 5,6-dimethoxy-3-methyl-2(3H)benzothiazolone hydrazone,  
 5-ethoxy-3-methyl-2(3H)benzothiazolone hydrazone,  
 6-ethoxy-3-methyl-2(3H)benzothiazolone hydrazone,  
 3-methyl-5-nitro-2(3H)benzothiazolone hydrazone,  
 3-methyl-6-nitro-2(3H)benzothiazolone hydrazone,  
 5-acetamido-3-methyl-2(3H)benzothiazolone hydrazone,  
 6-acetamido-3-methyl-2(3H)benzothiazolone hydrazone,  
 5-anilino-3-methyl-2(3H)benzothiazolone hydrazone,  
 6-anilino-3-methyl-2(3H)benzothiazolone hydrazone,  
 2-hydrazono-2,3-dihydro-3-methyl-6-benzothiazolecarboxylic acid,  
 2-hydrazono-2,3-dihydro-3-methyl-4-benzothiazolesulfonic acid,

2-hydrazono-2,3-dihydro-3-methyl-5-benzothiazolesulfonic acid,  
 2-hydrazono-2,3-dihydro-3-methyl-6-benzothiazolesulfonic acid,  
 2-hydrazono-2,3-dihydro-3-methyl-7-benzothiazolesulfonic acid,  
 2-hydrazono-2,3-dihydro-N,N,3-trimethyl-6-benzothiazolesulfonamide,  
 [(2-hydrazono-2,3-dihydro-3-methyl-6-benzothiazolyl)oxy]acetic acid hydrazide,  
 3-methylnaphtho[2,3-d]thiazol-2(3H)one hydrazone  
 3-ethyl-2(3H)benzothiazolone hydrazone,  
 6-ethoxy-3-ethyl-2(3H)benzothiazolone hydrazone,  
 3-propyl-2(3H)benzothiazolone hydrazone,  
 3-butyl-2(3H)benzothiazolone hydrazone,  
 3-hexyl-2(3H)benzothiazolone hydrazone,  
 3-hydroxyethyl-2(3H)benzothiazolone hydrazone,  
 3-aminoethyl-2(3H)benzothiazolone hydrazone,  
 3-p-methylbenzyl-2(3H)benzothiazolone hydrazone,  
 2-hydrazono -2,3-dihydro-3-(2-hydroxyethyl)-6-benzothiazolecarboxylic acid  
 2-hydrazono -2,3-dihydro-6-methoxy-3(2H)benzothiazolepropanesulfonic acid,  
 6-hexadecyloxy-2-hydrazono-3(2H)benzothiazolepropanesulfonic acid,  
 ethyl 2-keto-3-benzothiazolineacetate hydrazone,  
 3-acetyl-2(3H)benzothiazolone hydrazone and 2-hydrazono-3(2H)  
 benzothiazole carboxaldehyde.

4. (currently amended) Agent as defined in ~~one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1,  
 characterized in that the active CH-active com-pound is selected from among  
 cyanoacetic acid, methyl cyanoacetate, ethyl cyanoacetate, malonic acid dinitrile,  
 pivaloylacetone nitrile, 2-cyanoacetamide, 2-cyano-1-methyl-4-nitrobenzene,  
 barbituric acid, thiobarbituric acid, 1,3-dimethylthiobarbituric acid, 1-methyl-1,2-  
 dihydro-6-hydroxy-4-methyl-2-ketopyridine-3-carbonitrile,  
 1-ethyl,1,2-dihydro-6-hydroxy-4-methyl-2-ketopyridine-3-carbonitrile, 1-  
 hydroxyethyl-1,2-dihydro-6-hydroxy-4-methyl-2-ketopyridine-3-carbonitrile, 1,3-  
 dihydro-2H-indol-  
 2-one, benzofuran-3(2H)-one, 2-phenyl-3,5-dihydroimidazol-4-one, 3-indoxyl

acetate, 2-thioxo-4-thiazolidinone and 4-keto-2-thioxo-3-thiazolidinylacetic acid.

5. (currently amended) Agent as defined in ~~claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, characterized in that the oxidant is selected from among hydrogen peroxide or an addition compound thereof, persalts, peracids and enzymatic oxidation systems.

6. (original) Agent as defined in claim 5, characterized in that the oxidant is selected from among hydrogen peroxide and an addition product thereof and persulfate salts.

7. (currently amended) Agent as defined in ~~one of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, characterized in that it contains the hydrazone derivatives of formula (I) and the CH-active compound of formulas (II) to (IX) and the oxidant in a total amount from 0.01 to 10 weight percent each.

8. (currently amended) Agent as defined in ~~one of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, characterized in that it contains additionally from 0.01 to 10 weight percent of a physiologically unobjectionable direct dye from the group of cationic and anionic dyes, disperse dyes, nitro dyes, azo dyes, quinone dyes and triphenylmethane dyes.

9. (currently amended) Agent as defined in ~~one of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1, characterized in that it has a pH from 7 to 11.

10. (currently amended) Agent as defined in ~~one of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1, characterized in that it is a hair colorant.

11. (original) Two-component kit consisting of a dye carrier composition (A1) containing the compound of formula (I) and another dye carrier composition (A2) containing the CH-active compound of formulas (II) to (IX) and an oxidant.

12. (original) Three-component kit consisting of a dye carrier composition (A1) containing the compound of formula (I), another dye carrier composition (A2) containing the CH-active compound of formulas (II) to (IX) and an oxidant, and a third component (A3) containing an agent for pH adjustment.

13. Two-component kit consisting of a powdered dye carrier composition (A1) containing the compounds of formula (I), the CH-active compound of formulas (II) to (IX) and an oxidant as well as optionally other common powdered cosmetic additives, and a liquid cosmetic composition (A2).

14. (original) Three-component kit consisting of a dye carrier composition (A1) containing the compounds of formula (I), another dye carrier composition (A2) containing the CH-active compound of formulas (II) to (IX) and an oxidant-containing third component (A3).

15. (currently amended) Method for coloring hair whereby a colorant as defined in ~~one of claims 1 to 10~~ claim 1 is applied to the hair, and after an exposure time of 5 to 60 minutes at a temperature from 20 to 50 °C the hair is rinsed with water, optionally washed with a shampoo and then dried.